

Lordship for Laborers

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I. Introduction. Text: Matthew 13, John 12.

II. We are “seeds.”

A. If you are a child of the king Jesus, you are a seed among other things.

B. We need to perceive ourselves this way.

III. Jesus is the farmer.

IV. The field is the world.

A. The seed does not choose where to go.

B. We must be available to serve wherever God wants us.

C. The tragedy of not being available to God is that we will not be as effective even where we are.

V. Unless the seed dies, it abides alone. If it dies, it bears much fruit.

A. Many believers abide alone because they are unwilling to die.

B. The believer who hates his life will bear fruit.

1. This means to relinquish control. (Ecclesiastes 8:8)

2. One’s life is the sum total of all his or her activities and relationships.

C. We have to be open-handed about our possessions and relationships.

D. Whatever Jesus says to do we are to do.

Application questions:

1. How does the seed illustration help us to see that we are not in control of our ministry?

2. What does it mean to die to oneself?

3. To what areas of ministry may God be calling you? Spend some time in prayer and write your reflections below.
